

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET  
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL  
B.S.A.

DATE JUNE 20, 1965

Full Name THOMAS VOTAVA  
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

Address 1924 S. 49TH COURT

City CICERO State ILLINOIS

Age 37 (This is important and should be exact)

Approximate age \_\_\_\_\_ (To be used ONLY when exact age is not known)

Religion ROMAN CATHOLIC Nationality CZECHOSLOVAKIAN

Occupation GENERAL MOTORS - OFFICE WORK

Education COLLEGE WORK PROBABLE

Weight 160-165 LBS Color LIGHT Height 5FT-8IN

Color of hair BLACK Color of eyes BLUE

Outstanding characteristics or interests \_\_\_\_\_

Married or single SINGLE Children \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number, ages, and names, if possible)

Wife's name \_\_\_\_\_

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

Unit #	City	State	Office	Date Reg'd.	Date resigned
<u>311</u>	<u>CICERO</u>	<u>ILL</u>	<u>SCOUTMASTER</u>		

Special recognition SILVER BEAVER

Recommended for Confidential File for following reasons:

(COVERED IN ORIGINAL TRANSMITTAL)

Signed [Signature]  
Asst. Scout Executive

GC-294-31

TSBSA011822

DYKES\_I\_012936

June 3, 1965

Mr. Alden Barber  
Scout Executive  
Chicago Area Council, No. 118

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
Re: Thomas Votava  
Scoutmaster, Troop 311

Attention: John W. Dupree, Assistant Scout Executive

Dear Alden:

Thank you for your letter of May 27, and the enclosed correspondence concerning Mr. Thomas Votava, Scoutmaster of Troop 311. We have placed this information in our file and have taken steps to have his name deleted from the Troop roster.

Enclosed is a confidential record sheet which we would appreciate your filling out and returning to us. This information will enable us to identify Mr. Votava should he ever again attempt to register in the Scouting program.

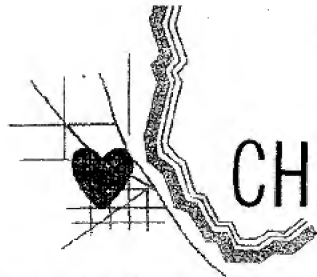
Sincerely yours,  
PERSONNEL DIVISION

Howard Boyd  
Director of Registration

HB/clr  
Encl.

TSBSA011823

DYKES\_I\_012937



Heart of Mid-America

R. DOUGLAS STUART  
HONORARY PRESIDENT

GEORGE M. BARD  
PRESIDENT

ALLEN W. MATHIS, JR.  
SCOUT COMMISSIONER

ALDEN G. BARBER  
SCOUT EXECUTIVE

# CHICAGO AREA COUNCIL

## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

300 WEST ADAMS STREET  
COUNCIL 118

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606  
TELEPHONE 312-782-3990  
TWX: 312-222-9787

May 27, 1965

Mr. Delmer H. Wilson  
Director Personnel Division  
National Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Dear Skipper:

Enclosed is the registration card and accompanying information concerning Thomas Votava, who has admitted to us that he has had homosexual relations with Scouts in his troop.

Mr. Votava has had a long affiliation with community organizations as well as Scouting and is a Silver Beaver recipient.

We are also enclosing a copy of our letter to Rev. [REDACTED] indicating that any further disclosure of Mr. Votava's activities to law enforcement agencies, etc., should be initiated by him, inasmuch as he is the individual who was good enough to bring the problem to us.

We ask that his name be entered in the confidential file, and stand ready to supply additional information if the enclosed data is not sufficient.

Very truly yours,

  
JOHN W. DUPREE  
Assistant Scout Executive

JWD:hm  
Enc.  
cc: Alden G. Barber

TSBSA011824

DYKES\_I\_012938

May 27, 1965

Rev. [REDACTED]  
Mary Queen of Heaven Roman Catholic Church  
[REDACTED]  
Cicero, Illinois

Dear Reverend [REDACTED]:

We appreciate very much the confidence shared with us regarding the homo-sexual activities of Thomas Votava. We have met with Mr. Votava and have secured his unconditional, immediate resignation from the Boy Scouts of America. We have also informed our National Personnel Division, so that his name can be entered in Scouting's confidential file, which will make it impossible for him to ever again affiliate with the Boy Scouts of America.

Because you, in essence, brought the problem to us - we are not pursuing this situation further with the boy's parents, law enforcement agencies, his employer, etc. If this is done, it should be pursued by you.

Millions of volunteer leaders give continuing leadership to the boys and units active in the Boy Scouts of America and, unfortunately - we do occasionally encounter situations such as this.

Again, we express our deep appreciation to you.

Very truly yours,

JOHN W. DUPREE  
Assistant Scout Executive

JWD:bm

cc: Alden G. Barber  
Personnel Division ✓

TSBSA011825

DYKES\_I\_012939

1924 S. 49th Court  
Cicero, Illinois - 60650  
May 24, 1965

Mrs. Rose Peluso, President  
Cicero School Parent Teachers Association  
4835 W. 25th Street  
Cicero, Illinois - 60650

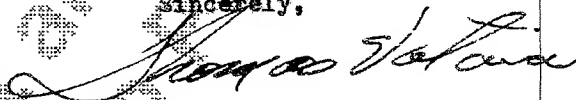
Dear Mrs. Peluso:

As you are aware, I am currently the Scoutmaster of Troop 311, which is sponsored by your Parent Teachers Association.

Because of urgent personal reasons, I must resign immediately as Scoutmaster of this fine unit. With help and assistance from the Cicero District Boy Scout officials, the troop committee will select a replacement and notify you of their selection in the near future.

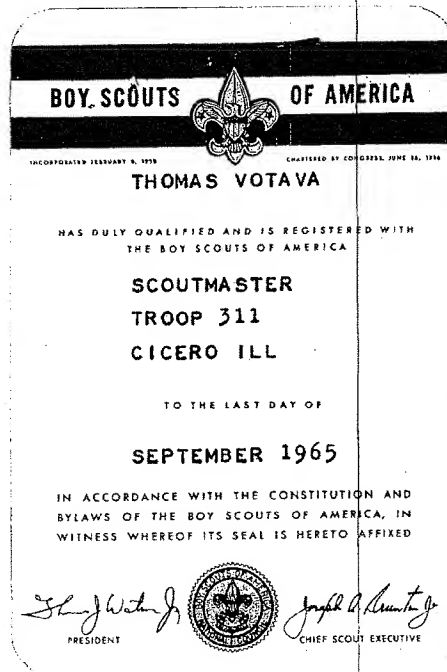
Although I leave with regret, I am pleased to inform you that Troop 311 is in generally good health, and will continue to be worthy of your sponsorship.

Sincerely,



THOMAS VOTAVA

cc/ Chicago Area Council  
Boy Scouts of America



TSBSA011826

DYKES\_I\_012940

This is a summary of a conversation by Reverend [REDACTED],  
Mary Queen of Heaven Roman Catholic Church, [REDACTED],  
Cicero, Illinois, told to Joseph Koshut, District Scout Executive,  
Chicago Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, on Monday, May 17, 1965,  
9:30 a.m., at the above church rectory.

Father [REDACTED] related that a boy in the church's parochial school  
came to him with a problem on his conscience. They talked it out.

The boy [REDACTED], told of  
having homosexual contact with his Scoutmaster, Thomas Votava,  
1924 S. 49th Court, Cicero, Illinois. (Votava is Scoutmaster of  
Troop 311, Cicero School P.T.A.)

The contacts began about 1½ years ago building up to as high as  
2 to 3 contacts a week. Then about 6 months ago the contacts  
dropped off as the boy's Scouting activity lessened. However,  
the last contact occurred a month ago when the boy visited the  
Scoutmaster for a letter of recommendations.

The basic nature of the act was that of the man using his mouth on  
the reproductive organ of the boy.

These contacts took place in the man's basement.

The boy said he knew of at least one other Scout who was similarly  
related to the Scoutmaster, but would not give his name.

Statement approved for accuracy by:

[REDACTED]  
Date May 20, 1965

Statement prepared by:

[REDACTED]  
Date May 17, 1965

TSBSA011827

DYKES\_I\_012941

1960  
SILVER BEAVER WORK SHEET

*Votava, Thomas*

CANDIDATE # 23

*Cicero*

A. Persons Recommending (by office) (2-0)	B. Positions held in B.S.A. (Dates) (7-0)	C. Activities - Accomplishments and Exceptional Service in Scouting (9-0)	D. Community & Civic Activities (other than Scouting) (4-0)
Troop Chairman. District Health & Safety Chairman. District Commissioner.	Neighborhood Comr. 1947-1950-1953-1957. ASM 1947-1950. I. R. 1947-1960. Explorer Advr. '56-1957. SM 1957-1960. Chapter Advisor Order of Arrow '58 - 1960. Vice Chairman 1959-1960.	Scoutmasters Training Course Leader 1954- 1959, Train the Trainers 1954. Staff "Know How" Shindig 1955. Leader G.E.T.L.C. 1956-60. Staff Cubbers Pow Wow Explorer Leaders Training Course Volunteer Summer Camp Leader.	Board of Directors Cicero Boys Club. Camping Chairman Cicero Boys Club. Treasurer C.B.C. Board Trustee Youth Commission. Treasurer Youth Commission. President Youth Commission. Youth Chairman V. F.W. Member of Holy Name Society. Quartermaster V.F.W. Sr. Vice Comdr. of V.F.W. Executive Board Post 1485. Member United Vets Council. Commander United Veterans Council-'60.

E.  
GENERAL COMMENTS

Served in World War II and Korean War.  
Graduated from Chicago Business College, and DePaul University.  
Masters Degree in Business University of Chicago.

TSBSA011828

DYKES\_I\_012942